

**BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

**In The Matter Of**

**MUR 4987**

**Commission on Presidential Debates**

**APR 12 1 09 PM '00**

**RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF GENERAL**

**RESPONSE OF THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
TO THE COMPLAINT OF THE REFORM PARTY OF THE USA, ET AL.**

This is in response to the Complaint identified as MUR 4987 filed by the Reform Party and others against the Commission on Presidential Debates ("CPD") and, apparently, the Republican National Committee ("RNC") for knowingly and willfully violating various provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (2 U.S.C. § 431 et seq.) and the Presidential Election Campaign Act (26 U.S.C. § 9001 et seq.), as well as the pertinent Federal Election Commission ("FEC") Regulations.

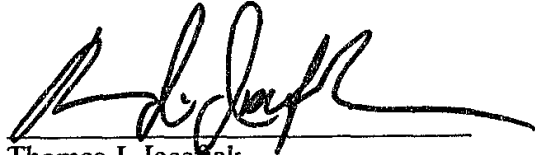
Since the CPD is not an affiliated committee or "alter ego" of the RNC as the complaint alleges, MUR 4987 should be dismissed as it relates to the RNC.

The CPD is a not-for-profit corporation which does not receive any funding or other support from the RNC. It was formed by Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr. and Paul G. Kirk, as a not-for-profit corporation separate and apart from their party organizations, as a potential sponsor for Presidential Candidate debates. Although Mr. Fahrenkopf was Chairman of the RNC at the time, CPD was never an officially or approved organization of the RNC. Although Messrs. Fahrenkopf and Kirk, the Chairman of CPD, served as the chairs of the major national party committees, they no longer do so; Jim Nicholson, the current chair of the RNC, does not sit on CPD's Board of Directors. In fact, no CPD Board Member is an officer of the Republican National Committee. The RNC neither organized, nor controls the CPD.

Similar allegations to those raised in this complaint were previously addressed in MUR 4473. The RNC's response to MUR 4473 is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

For the foregoing reasons, the RNC respectfully requests that the FEC dismiss the complaint against the RNC, find no reason to believe that the RNC violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, or the Presidential Campaign Fund Act, and close the file with respect to the RNC as it pertains to MUR 4987.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Josephak', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas J. Josephak

Chief Counsel

Alexander N. Vogel

Deputy Counsel

Counsel for the Republican National  
Committee and Alec Poitevint,  
Treasurer

Oct 15 2 37 PM '96

**BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

**In the Matter Of**

**MUR 4473**

**Commission on Presidential Debates**

**RESPONSE OF THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
TO THE COMPLAINT OF PEROT '96, INC.**

This is in response to the Complaint identified as MUR 4473 filed by Perot '96, Inc. ("Perot") against the Commission on Presidential Debates ("CPD") and, apparently, the Republican National Committee ("RNC") for knowingly and willfully violating various provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (2 U.S.C. § 431 et seq.) and the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act (26 U.S.C. § 9001 et seq.), as well as the pertinent Federal Election Commission ("FEC") Regulations.

Since the CPD is not an affiliated committee of the RNC as the Complaint alleges, MUR 4473 should be dismissed as it relates to the RNC.

The Complaint erroneously alleges that the CPD is an affiliated committee of the RNC. Under FEC regulations, in order for the CPD to be an affiliated committee of the RNC, it must be a political committee that is "established, financed, maintained or controlled" by the RNC. 11 C.F.R. § 100.5(g). The CPD is a not-for-profit corporation which does not receive funds or any other support from the RNC. It was formed by Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr. and Paul G., Kirk, Jr. as a not-for-profit corporation separate and apart from their party organizations, as a potential sponsor for Presidential Candidate debates. Although Mr. Fahrenkopf was Chairman of the RNC at the time, CPD was never an officially sanctioned or approved organization of the RNC. Although Messrs. Fahrenkopf and Kirk, the Chairmen of CPD, served as the chairs of the major national party committees, they no longer do so; Haley Barbour, the current chair of the RNC, does not sit on CPD's Board of Directors. In fact, no CPD Board member is an officer of the Republican National Committee.

The CPD is not a political committee established by the RNC, nor is it financed, maintained or controlled by the RNC. As a result, the Perot allegations that the CPD is an affiliated committee of the RNC is erroneous. Therefore, this complaint implicating the RNC is frivolous, and should be dismissed as it relates to the RNC.

For all the foregoing reasons, RNC respectfully requests that the FEC dismiss the Perot Complaint against the RNC, find no reason to believe that the RNC violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, or the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act, and close the file with respect to the RNC as it pertains to MUR 4473.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. Josefiak", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas J. Josefiak

Counsel for the Republican National Committee  
and William J. McManus, as Treasurer

September 15, 1996

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR 4473

NAME OF COUNSEL: Thomas J. Josefiak

ORGANIZATION: Republican National Committee

ADDRESS: Counsel's Office  
310 First Street, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

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FAX: (202) 863-8654

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

10/15/96

Date



Signature

RESPONDENT'S NAME: Republican National Committee  
William J. McManus, Treasurer

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